

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Martin Brox

Serial No.: 10/585,151

Filed: October 16, 2007

Docket No.: Q601.131.101/2003P53957US

Title: VOLTAGE REGULATION SYSTEM

REMARKS

The following remarks are made in response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed May 12, 2010. Claims 1-9, 16, and 27 have been previously cancelled. Claims 10-15, 17-26, and 28-31 were rejected. With this Response, claims 10, 19, and 21 have been amended, claim 15 has been cancelled without prejudice, and claim 32 has been added. Claims 10-14, 17-26, and 28-32 remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a) for failing to show every feature of the invention specified in the claims.

Claim 21 has been amended such that the drawings show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. In particular, Applicant submits that Figure 2 shows every feature recited by amended claim 21. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the above objection to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a) should be withdrawn.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claim 15 under 37 C.F.R. 1.75(c) for being of improper dependent form for failing to limit the subject matter of a previous claim.

Claim 15 has been cancelled.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Applicant submits that claim 19 does not contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The Examiner submits that the limitation “changing the essentially constant voltage to provide the second voltage in a first state and changing the greater of the essentially constant voltage and the

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variable further voltage to provide the second voltage in a second state” is new matter. (Office Action, page 4). Applicant submits that this limitation is described in the specification for example on page 8, lines 25-32; page 12, lines 19-37; and in Figure 5.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that the above rejection of claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, should be withdrawn. Allowance of claim 19 is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected claims 10-15, 17-26, 28, and 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Matsuda et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,861,771 (“Matsuda”).

Applicant submits that Matsuda fails to teach or suggest the features recited by amended independent claims 10, 19, and 21 including “**generating an essentially constant voltage ... to provide the essentially constant voltage on a first line**” and “**generating a variable further voltage ... to provide the variable further voltage on a second line directly connected to the first line.**”

The Examiner submits that VREF (i.e., the output of operational amplifier 41) and V_R of Matsuda disclose the *essentially constant voltage* and the *variable further voltage*, respectively, as recited by claims 10, 19, and 21. (Office Action, page 5, 7, and 8). The output of operational amplifier 41, however, is not provided on a line that is *directly connected* to a line on which V_R is provided. In contrast, Matsuda discloses that V_R is provided on a line that is connected to the power inputs of operational amplifiers 41 and 51 through switch 81 while the output of operational amplifier 41 is provided on a line connected to resistors and an input of operational amplifier 51.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that the above rejection of independent claims 10, 19, and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) should be withdrawn. Dependent claim 15 has been cancelled. Dependent claims 11-14, 17, 18, 20, 22-26, 28, and 29 further define patentably distinct independent claim 10, 19, or 21. Accordingly, Applicant believes that these dependent

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claims are also allowable over the cited reference. Allowance of claims 10-14, 17-26, 28, and 29 is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 30 and 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuda in view of Ingino, Jr., U.S. Patent No. 6,914,476 ("Ingino").

Dependent claims 30 and 31 further define patentably distinct independent claim 10 or 21. Accordingly, Applicant believes that these dependent claims are also allowable over the cited references. Allowance of claims 30 and 31 is respectfully requested.

Added Claim

Claim 32 has been added. No new matter has been added. Applicant believes that added claim 32 is allowable over the cited references. Accordingly, allowance of claim 32 is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 10-14, 17-26, and 28-32 are in form for allowance and are not taught or suggested by the cited references. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 10-14, 17-26, and 28-32 is respectfully requested.

Applicant hereby authorizes the Commissioner for Patents to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0471 in the amount of \$220 to cover the fees as set forth under 37 C.F.R. 1.16(h)(i).

Please consider this a Petition for Extension of Time for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0471.

The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's representative at the below-listed telephone numbers to facilitate prosecution of this application.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to Steven E. Dicke at Telephone No. (612) 573-2002, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 2, 2010

SED:kmh

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